ALLENTOWN-BETHLEHEM MSA ALTOONA MSA BEAVER COUNTY PMSA ERIE MSA HARRISBURG-LEBANON-CARLISLE MSA JOHNSTOWN MSA LANCASTER MSA
PHILADELPHIA PMSA PITTSBURGH PMSA READING MSA SCRANTON /WILKES-BARRE MSA SHARON MSA STATE COLLEGE MSA WILLIAMSPORT MSA YORK MSA

ISSUED: May 1992

PENNSYLVANIA'S LABOR FORCE

..... A Monthly Statistical Analysis

APRIL 1992 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Pennsylvania's joblessness increased in April; the statewide rate of unemployment, seasonally adjusted, climbed to 7.9 percent.**
- **Nonfarm jobs rose seasonally by 40,100 in April to 5,033,300. They were about 50,100 under their level of April 1991.**

In March 1992 . . .

- **Average weekly earnings of production workers in Pennsylvania manufacturing industries climbed to $475.78, as the average workweek increased by 0.3 hour and average hourly pay by 5 cents.**
- **The total number of initial claims dipped 3 percent from February but weeks claimed rose by 11 percent.**
- **More than $79 million benefits were paid to emergency unemployment compensation claimants.**
- **Unadjusted unemployment rates fell in 66 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.**
- **All 15 of Pennsylvania's major labor market areas had lower seasonally adjusted unemployment rates than in February.**

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LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Robert P. Casey, Governor
Department of Labor and Industry
Bureau of Research and Statistics

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

Pennsylvania's Labor Force . . . A Monthly Statistical Analysis

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Inquiries can also be directed to Labor Market Analysts located throughout Pennsylvania.

The following is a list of Analysts and the counties they serve.

Analyst	Phone Number	Counties Served
Edward Murray	(215)560-1977 Philadelphia	Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia Counties in PA; Burlington, Camden, and Gloucester Counties in NJ
Kenneth Shockley	(215)378-4314 Reading	Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne, Schuylkill, Berks Counties in PA; Warren County, NJ
James Mowad	(717)963-3443 Scranton	Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Wyoming, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga
Fred Schneider Larry Baugher	(717)771-1299 York	Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, Perry, Lancaster, Adams, York, Franklin, Fulton
Glenn Lynn	(717)327-3504 Williamsport	Centre, Lycoming, Potter, Juniata, Mifflin, Clinton, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union
William Findley Debra Nicholson	(814)533-2213 Johnstown	Blair, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Clearfield, Jefferson, Huntingdon, Elk, Cameron, Greene
William Ceriani Roberta Wilson	(412)565-5350 Pittsburgh	Beaver, Allegheny, Fayette, Washington, Westmoreland, Butler, Indiana, Armstrong, Lawrence
Carol Patterson	(814)871-4298 Erie	Erie, Mercer, McKean, Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren

CURRENT LABOR FORCE SITUATION

JOBLESSNESS in Pennsylvania jumped to a new recession high in April as employment fell. The statewide seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment rose to 7.9 percent in April from 7.2 percent in March. The nation's rate went the other direction, down to 7.2 percent in April from 7.3 percent in March.

Data, made available through the Current Population Survey of households and released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, show April's unemployment in Pennsylvania, adjusted for seasonality, up 42,000 to 470,000. This was the highest number of unemployed during the recession, and April's rate of 7.9 percent was the highest since November 1985 when the rate was also 7.9 percent. Compared to one year ago, the rate was up from 6.9 percent.

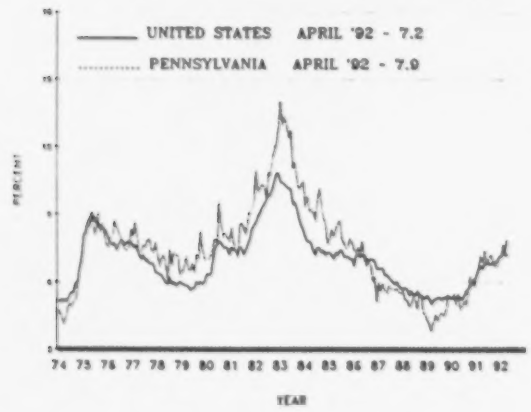
Employment, seasonally adjusted, fell 89,000 during April to 5,469,000. This was only 2,000 above the recession low of March 1991, and 59,000 below the level of one year ago. Employment had been climbing very slowly during the anemic economic recovery.

Although these numbers are very negative, they do not represent an economy slipping lower. Attempts at getting an economic recovery moving have been very slow and frustrating, keeping many people unemployed for long periods of time. Nevertheless, the early stages of recovery are in place. Demand for goods and services is rising and housing construction is rising. Businesses in Pennsylvania and the nation are working overtime to meet the increased demand. And nationwide, temporary-help employment has been up two months in a row. As stated by the Deputy Commissioner for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Increases in business services are often a bellwether of job growth, as employers are hesitant to begin hiring permanent employes until they are confident that an upturn in business will be sustained. Employers typically first react by increasing the hours of their existing workforce in order to increase output or by turning to business service firms to obtain either direct services or temporary workers to meet their growing demands."

RESIDENT CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE
(in thousands)

	APR. 1992	MAR. 1992	APR. 1991	CHANGE FROM MAR. 1992	CHANGE FROM APR. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	5,915	5,901	5,911	14	4
Employment	5,448	5,451	5,507	-3	-59
Unemployment	467	450	404	17	63
Rate of Unemp.	7.9%	7.6%	6.8%	0.3	1.1
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED					
Civilian Labor Force	5,939	5,986	5,938	-47	1
Employment	5,469	5,558	5,528	-89	-59
Unemployment	470	428	410	42	60
Rate of Unemp.	7.9%	7.2%	6.9%	0.7	1.0

UNITED STATES & PENNSYLVANIA
UNEMPLOYMENT RATES
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



PENNSYLVANIA'S JOBS

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)

	APR. 1992 AP/	MAR. 1992 P/	FEB. 1992	MAR. 1991	CHANGE FROM FEB. 1992	CHANGE FROM MAR. 1991
NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS	5,033.3	4,993.2	4,969.7	5,056.2	23.5	-63.0
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	1,162.9	1,149.6	1,145.2	1,188.1	4.4	-38.5
Mining	23.9	23.6	23.6	24.9	0.0	-1.3
Construction	187.6	175.6	170.9	187.7	4.7	-12.1
Manufacturing	951.4	950.4	950.7	975.5	-0.3	-25.1
Durable Goods	527.7	525.3	525.2	547.7	0.1	-22.4
Lumber and Wood		27.2	26.9	28.6	0.3	-1.4
Furniture and Fixtures		17.4	17.2	17.9	0.2	-0.5
Stone, Clay, and Glass		40.6	40.2	43.0	0.4	-2.4
Primary Metals		81.5	81.4	84.2	0.1	-2.7
Fabricated Metals		80.8	81.5	85.0	-0.7	-4.2
Industrial Machinery		98.8	99.2	105.2	-0.4	-6.4
Electric and Electronic Equipment		73.8	74.0	77.2	-0.2	-3.4
Transportation Equipment		48.0	47.5	48.9	0.5	-0.9
Instruments and Related		37.4	37.8	38.8	-0.4	-1.4
Miscellaneous Manufacturing		19.8	19.5	18.9	0.3	0.9
Nondurable Goods	423.7	425.1	425.5	427.8	-0.4	-2.7
Food and Kindred		87.6	87.6	88.3	0.0	-0.7
Textile Mill		26.1	25.9	25.3	0.2	0.8
Apparel and Other Textiles		65.9	66.4	66.5	-0.5	-0.6
Paper and Allied		38.6	38.6	39.3	0.0	-0.7
Printing and Publishing		83.1	83.0	84.3	0.1	-1.2
Chemicals and Allied		63.0	63.0	63.2	0.0	-0.2
Petroleum and Coal		10.9	10.9	10.9	0.0	0.0
Rubber and Plastics		41.4	41.7	40.9	-0.3	0.5
Leather		7.5	7.4	8.1	0.1	-0.6
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	3,869.5	3,843.5	3,823.9	3,867.8	18.6	-25.3
Transportation	156.7	155.8	155.8	157.4	0.0	-1.6
Public Utilities	104.5	104.8	104.9	105.1	-0.1	-0.3
Communications		51.6	51.8	51.0	-0.2	0.6
Electric, Gas and Sanitary		53.2	53.1	54.1	0.1	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	260.5	259.3	259.7	267.7	-0.4	-8.4
Retail Trade	870.6	862.1	859.5	873.1	2.6	-11.0
General Merchandise Stores		107.0	107.6	113.2	-0.6	-6.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	300.6	299.5	298.9	298.9	0.6	0.6
Finance		141.6	141.5	139.3	0.1	2.3
Insurance		118.0	117.7	118.6	0.3	-0.6
Real Estate		39.9	39.7	41.0	0.2	-1.1
Services	1,461.7	1,446.5	1,436.7	1,443.9	9.8	2.6
Business		193.6	193.0	200.9	0.6	-7.3
Health		501.2	499.0	485.3	2.2	15.9
Hospitals		267.8	267.1	259.2	0.7	8.6
Legal		40.9	41.0	41.9	-0.1	-1.0
Educational		169.5	168.5	169.3	1.0	0.2
Social		113.4	112.4	109.5	1.0	3.9
Other		427.9	422.8	437.0	5.1	-9.1
Government	714.9	714.5	708.4	721.7	6.1	-7.2
Federal		136.7	136.3	138.4	0.4	-1.7
State		143.7	144.8	157.8	-1.1	-14.1
Local		434.1	427.3	425.5	6.8	8.6
PERSONS IN LABOR-MGMT. DISPUTES	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.8

AP/= Advance preliminary, based on early survey returns.
P/= Preliminary data, used to compute "change from" columns.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

JOBS ROSE for the third straight month in April to 5,033,300, according to advance preliminary data from the monthly survey of employer payrolls. This was an increase of 40,100 jobs from March. Goods-producing jobs rose by 13,300, led by a gain of 12,000 in construction; service-producing jobs increased by 27,000, especially in the services and retail trade sectors. Most sectors among nonagricultural jobs, however, were below their April 1991 levels most notably in the goods-producing industries. Only services and finance, insurance and real estate had gains on a year-to-year comparison.

JOBS WERE UP again in March for the second straight month to 4,993,200. While this represented a month-to-month pickup of 23,500 from February, March's gain was only two-thirds of the expected seasonal rise. Further, March's job count was off by 63,000 from the recession month of March 1991. In this respect, March was little changed from the 60,000 plus shortfalls experienced in the beginning of the year when comparisons were made between January and February 1992 and the same months a year before.

The department's job count excludes farm workers, domestic workers, unpaid family workers, and the self-employed.

For March, about 80 percent of the overall improvement was in the service-producing sector -- almost all of whose industry groups showed modest job gains. The largest share of these gains was in services and local government -- both of which showed an over-the-year improvement as well. The standout gainer was health services. Nationally, the health care industry created 425,000 new jobs in 1991. In Pennsylvania, health services gained nearly 16,000 additional jobs in the 12 months from March 1991. Nevertheless, the service-producing sector as a whole was down 25,300 jobs from its level of March 1991.

Over the year, the goods-producing sector was down even more. Compared to March 1991, goods-producing jobs were off by 38,500 -- only 4,400 over February's record low. This was less than half of seasonal expectations. A month-to-month increase in construction countered yet another over-the-month dip in manufacturing. But in construction, this climb was only a little better than half the seasonally expected rise.

For the third month in a row, manufacturing jobs reached another record low. The uptick of only 100 new jobs since February in durable goods was more than countered by the dip of 400 in nondurable goods. In contrast, the two combined should have added almost 2,000 jobs in March. For the second consecutive month, jobs in nondurable goods also experienced a record low. Each month the particular industry group leading the nondurables' downward spiral has varied. For example, in the months of January and February it was food, while in March it was apparel. Nevertheless, manufacturing's problem has not been confined to just a few industries; it has been spread widely throughout both of its component groups. Over the year, two out of three nondurable goods industries and all but one of the durable goods industries lost jobs.

EMPLOYERS

Looking for workers for employee training that's specific to your business? Then you're looking for the Pennsylvania Job Center near you; where employers find the employees they need, and workers find the jobs they want.

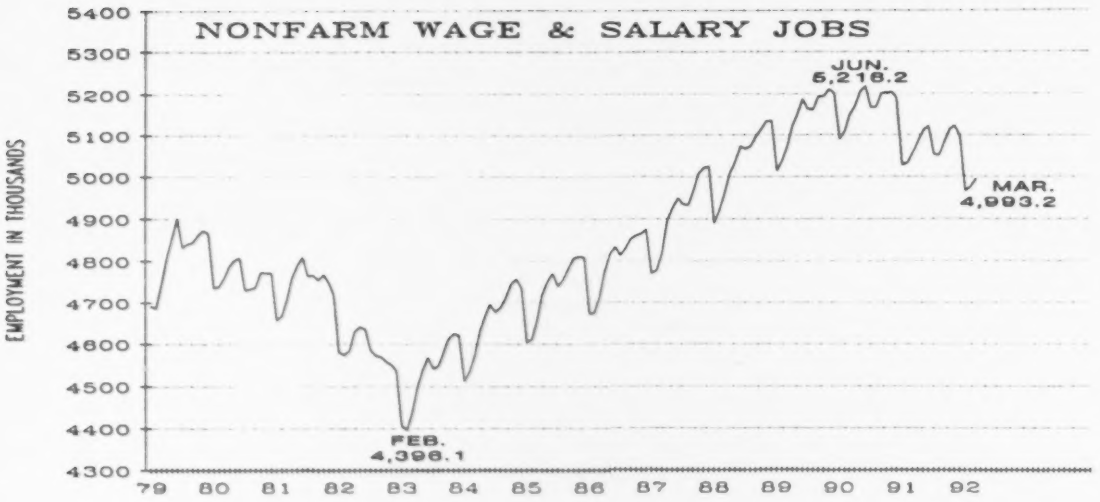
For a working future, this is the place.

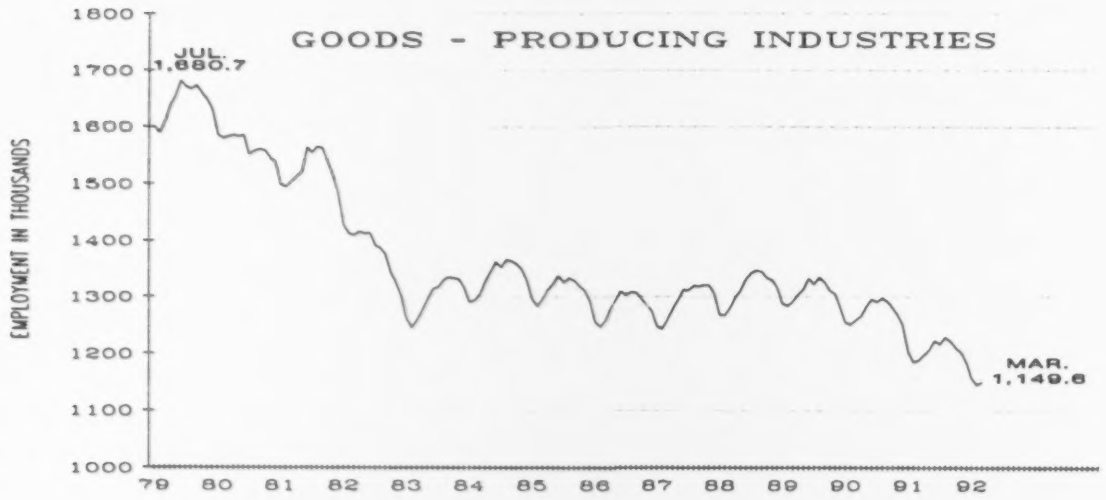
For the Job Center near you call:

1-800-622-JOBS

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT

in Pennsylvania





MONTH AND YEAR

ESTABLISHMENT PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS AND EARNINGS

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	MAR. 1992 P/	FEB. 1992	MAR. 1991	MAR. 1992 P/	FEB. 1992	MAR. 1991	MAR. 1992 P/	FEB. 1992	MAR. 1991
Manufacturing	475.78	470.26	454.00	40.7	40.4	40.0	11.69	11.64	11.35
Durable Goods	515.84	511.70	489.57	41.6	41.5	40.9	12.40	12.33	11.97
Lumber and Wood	379.93	367.30	335.16	39.7	38.3	36.0	9.57	9.59	9.31
Furniture and Fixtures	384.87	379.25	374.42	39.8	39.3	38.6	9.67	9.65	9.70
Stone, Clay, and Glass	499.38	498.52	478.23	41.0	41.2	40.7	12.18	12.10	11.75
Primary Metals	590.10	589.53	552.80	42.0	41.9	41.1	14.06	14.07	13.45
Fabricated Metals	489.30	483.00	456.44	42.0	42.0	40.9	11.65	11.50	11.16
Industrial Machinery	541.40	538.45	530.85	42.9	42.7	42.4	12.62	12.61	12.52
Electric and Electronic Equipment	495.33	495.33	471.24	42.3	42.3	42.0	11.71	11.71	11.22
Transportation Equipment	607.10	588.13	572.24	40.8	40.2	40.7	14.88	14.63	14.06
Instruments and Related	490.80	489.50	465.75	40.9	41.1	40.5	12.00	11.91	11.50
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	481.19	470.37	440.98	40.2	40.1	39.8	11.97	11.73	11.08
Nondurable Goods	426.60	422.18	408.84	39.5	39.2	38.9	10.80	10.77	10.51
Food and Kindred	460.40	458.17	438.85	40.0	39.6	39.5	11.51	11.57	11.11
Textile Mill	326.04	325.20	307.69	39.0	38.9	37.8	8.36	8.36	8.14
Apparel and Other Textiles	249.57	246.40	235.98	35.5	35.0	34.3	7.03	7.04	6.88
Paper and Allied	513.89	511.34	494.91	42.4	42.4	41.8	12.12	12.06	11.84
Printing and Publishing	474.24	467.78	462.94	39.0	38.5	39.1	12.16	12.15	11.84
Chemicals and Allied	587.55	577.80	558.95	42.3	41.9	41.9	13.89	13.79	13.34
Petroleum and Coal	729.06	702.35	722.89	43.5	42.8	43.6	16.76	16.41	16.58
Rubber and Plastics	437.00	431.34	415.74	42.1	42.0	41.0	10.38	10.27	10.14
Leather	275.44	274.64	274.54	36.1	35.9	37.0	7.63	7.65	7.42
SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES									
Communications	614.46	609.34	575.23	39.9	39.8	38.4	15.40	15.31	14.98
Electric, Gas, and Sanitary	745.93	735.25	712.75	42.6	42.5	42.1	17.51	17.30	16.93

P/ = Preliminary data.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

RECORD HOURLY EARNINGS

of $11.69 were paid to Pennsylvania's production workers during the survey week in March. This was up 5 cents an hour from February and up 34 cents an hour from March 1991. March's average workweek was up as well, to a level nearly three-fourths of an hour above the 40 hour norm. It is above this normative level that hours can be reduced whenever production must be curtailed.

The increase in March's hours coupled with the hike in the hourly pay resulted in a weekly pay boost of $5.52 to $475.78. This was nearly 5 percent above the average pay of a year ago.

As usual, durable goods workers averaged the highest hours and pay. At $12.40 an hour, their March pay rate was at a record high; and at 41.6 hours, their average workweek was comfortably over the standard.

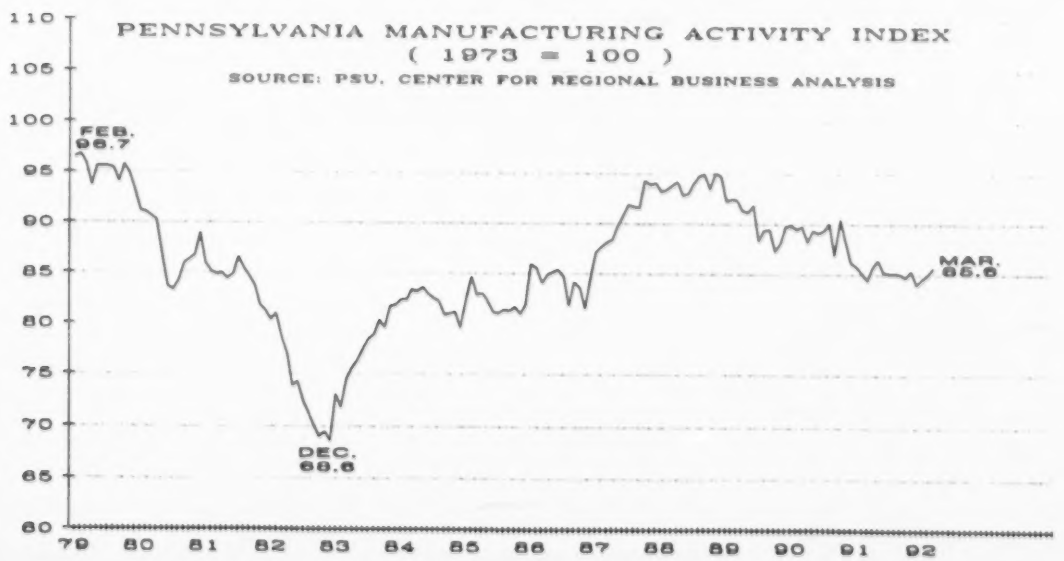
Nevertheless, while eight of the ten hard goods industries had wage rates ranging from $11.65 to $14.88, lumber and furniture were two industries with hourly wages averaging under $10. Also, while four hard goods industries had workweeks of 42 hours or more, these two industries had average workweeks below 40 hours.

Typically, nondurable goods industries average lower hours and pay. The month of March was not an exception. The soft goods average workweek of 39.5 hours was two hours shorter than the average for hard goods, and the soft goods hourly pay average was about $1.50 less than for hard goods. This resulted in soft goods average weekly earnings that were $90 shy of the hard goods average.

One soft goods industry, petroleum and coal products, had the highest weekly hours, 43.5, and the highest hourly pay, $16.76, of all 19 industry groups. Nevertheless, two other soft goods industries, apparel and leather products with workweeks of about 36 hours and hourly earnings of about $7.50, pulled down the soft goods average. Apparel and leather products have consistently been at the bottom of the industry groups in both pay and hours worked.

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION

in Pennsylvania



MONTH AND YEAR

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

REGULAR PROGRAM ACTIVITY

	MAR. 1992	FEB. 1992	MAR. 1991	CHANGE FROM FEB. 1992	CHANGE FROM MAR. 1991
CLAIMS ACTIVITY					
Initial Claims	**106,376**	109,106	109,651	-2,730	-3,275
Weeks Claimed	**1,114,767**	1,002,226	993,461	112,541	121,306
...Average Weekly Volume	**253,356**	238,625	236,538	14,731	16,818
Insured Unemployment Rate	**5.3%**	5.0%	4.9%	0.3	0.4
PAYMENT ACTIVITY					
First Payments	**44,726**	58,176	48,880	-13,450	-4,154
Final Payments	**14,794**	14,061	11,193	733	3,601
Weeks Paid	**935,895**	920,529	952,117	15,366	-16,222
Net Benefit Amount	**$174,084,375**	$171,272,629	$175,477,451	$2,811,746	-$1,393,076
Average Check	**$186.01**	$186.06	$184.30	-$0.05	$1.71

INITIAL CLAIMS FELL in March for the second consecutive month to a five-month low of 106,376, or 3 percent under March 1991. Continued claims, however, increased 11 percent from February 1992 and 12 percent from March 1991 to 1,114,767. This raised the insured unemployment rate 0.3 percentage point since February to 5.3 percent, its highest level since February 1984.

Meanwhile, first payments declined in March for the fourth consecutive month to 44,726. This was 4,154 less than a year ago. Final payments increased 5 percent from February and 32 percent since March 1991. Both weeks paid and net benefits rose by less than 2 percent over February and the average check stayed near $186.

The March 31, 1992, Unemployment Trust Fund balance fell to $725 million as disbursements of $174 million exceeded the $8 million in income.

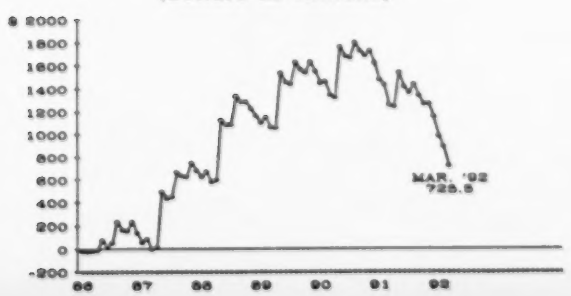
EUC PROGRAM ACTIVITY

	Mar. 1992	Cumulative
First payments	17,144	135,848
Weeks Comp.	414,097	1,418,252
Benefit Amount	$79,040,950	$270,801,769
Average Check	$191	$191

In March, 17,144 persons received checks for the first time. Net payments totaled $79 million or an average of $191 weekly for Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits. These figures include payments to former federal employees and veterans, as well as to regular UC exhaustees. EUC began November 17 in all states. Pennsylvania can draw up to 33 weeks of benefits. No new EUC claims may be filed after July 4, 1992.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION TRUST FUND ACTIVITY

BALANCES
1986 - 1992
(Dollars in Millions)



MARCH 1992

Income	$	7,669,167
Disbursements	$	174,066,414
Cash Reserves	$	725,492,529

UNEMPLOYMENT ... A GEOGRAPHIC VIEW

RATES PLUMMETED in Pennsylvania counties in March. Sixty-six of the 67 counties had lower unemployment rates in March than in February -- two of them by three percentage points. Since county rates are not seasonally adjusted, it is normal for most March rates to show a substantial improvement over February.

As usual, the counties with the smallest populations showed the greatest percentage changes. Of the 17 counties showing a change of 1.0 percent or more from March 1991, only Schuylkill County had a numerical change of more than 600 people. Its decline of 800 claimants over the year represented a fall of 10 percent from their unemployment level of 7,900 reached in each of the first three months of 1991.

For the month, counties with double-digit rates declined to 26 in March from 36 in February and from 30 in March 1991. September 1990 was the last month where rates for all counties were below 10 percent.

It should be noted that Pennsylvania's civilian labor force (those working plus those actively seeking work) rose for the year by 104,000 people, and of this number 92,000 found jobs. The growth in the labor force is often attributed to the return of workers discouraged by the economy from looking for jobs. In fact, a much larger number appear to be those who would rather not work but feel forced by financial pressure to enter the work force.

MARCH RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- 4.5 to 7.0
- 7.1 to 8.4
- 8.5 to 10.4
- 10.5 to 15.1

COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RANKING

	MARCH 1992 P/ RANK	RATE	VOLUME	FEBRUARY RATE	DIFF.
Cumberland	1	4.5	5,000	5.1	-0.6
Chester	2	5.2	10,300	6.0	-0.8
Dauphin	3	5.6	7,600	6.3	-0.7
Lancaster	3	5.6	12,700	6.7	-1.1
Delaware	5	5.9	16,900	6.7	-0.8
Montgomery	5	5.9	22,700	6.5	-0.6
Allegheny	7	6.1	40,900	6.7	-0.6
Centre	7	6.1	4,200	6.9	-0.8
Lebanon	7	6.1	4,000	6.9	-0.8
Adams	10	6.2	2,500	7.2	-1.0
Elk	11	6.8	1,200	8.5	-1.7
Franklin	12	6.9	4,200	7.9	-1.0
York	13	7.0	13,000	7.8	-0.8
Berks	14	7.2	12,600	8.0	-0.8
Bucks	15	7.3	21,700	8.4	-1.1
Lehigh	15	7.3	11,100	8.5	-1.2
Butler	17	7.7	6,200	8.9	-1.2
Northampton	17	7.7	9,200	8.8	-1.1
Bradford	19	7.8	2,400	8.8	-1.0
Perry	19	7.8	1,700	8.9	-1.1
Union	21	7.9	1,400	9.5	-1.6
Erie	22	8.0	11,000	9.5	-1.5
Mercer	22	8.0	4,100	9.3	-1.3
Montour	22	8.0	700	9.8	-1.8
Philadelphia	25	8.1	58,100	8.8	-0.7
Warren	25	8.1	1,900	9.3	-1.2
Washington	25	8.1	7,700	9.2	-1.1
Snyder	28	8.3	1,600	9.5	-1.2
Westmoreland	28	8.3	15,000	9.4	-1.1
McKean	30	8.4	1,800	9.3	-0.9
Cameron	31	8.5	200	10.1	-1.6
Lackawanna	32	8.9	9,700	9.6	-0.7
Lawrence	32	8.9	4,300	10.1	-1.2
Lycoming	34	9.0	5,400	10.6	-1.6
Venango	35	9.3	2,400	10.0	-0.7
Blair	36	9.5	5,900	10.6	-1.1
Fulton	37	9.7	600	10.7	-1.0
Luzerne	37	9.7	15,600	10.7	-1.0
Crawford	39	9.9	4,000	10.8	-0.9
Potter	39	9.9	900	10.7	-0.8
Schuylkill	39	9.9	7,100	11.3	-1.4
Northumberland	42	10.1	5,000	11.5	-1.4
Cambria	43	10.2	6,700	11.7	-1.5
Columbia	44	10.4	3,400	12.0	-1.6
Monroe	44	10.4	5,200	11.4	-1.0
Susquehanna	44	10.4	2,000	11.2	-0.8
Beaver	47	10.7	6,500	12.9	-2.2
Pike	47	10.7	1,400	12.3	-1.6
Sullivan	49	10.8	300	12.3	-1.5
Carbon	50	10.9	2,900	12.8	-1.9
Tioga	51	11.0	2,100	10.2	0.8
Clarion	52	11.1	2,100	14.3	-3.2
Jefferson	53	11.2	2,300	13.0	-1.8
Fayette	54	11.3	6,900	13.3	-2.0
Bedford	55	11.4	2,600	13.2	-1.8
Wayne	56	11.7	2,400	14.1	-2.4
Clearfield	57	11.8	4,200	13.5	-1.7
Somerset	57	11.8	4,000	13.1	-1.3
Armstrong	59	11.9	3,500	13.3	-1.4
Greene	60	12.3	1,700	14.5	-2.2
Indiana	61	12.4	4,600	13.8	-1.4
Wyoming	61	12.4	1,700	13.7	-1.3
Mifflin	63	13.0	2,800	14.7	-1.7
Clinton	64	13.3	2,100	15.0	-1.7
Forest	65	14.1	300	18.9	-4.8
Huntingdon	66	14.9	2,900	16.1	-1.2
Juniata	67	15.1	1,500	17.4	-2.3

P/ = Preliminary data.
Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

MAJOR LABOR MARKET AREA UNEMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)

	MAR. 1992 P/ VOLUME	RATE	FEB. 1992 VOLUME	RATE	MAR. 1991 VOLUME	RATE
United States	9,242.0	7.3%	9,244.0	7.3%	8,416.0	6.7%
Pennsylvania	428.0	7.2	457.0	7.6	418.0	7.1
Labor Market Area						
Allentown-Bethlehem MSA	25.2	7.4	27.5	8.0	24.3	7.2
Altoona MSA	5.6	8.9	5.9	9.3	6.0	9.8
Beaver County PMSA	6.4	10.3	7.0	11.1	6.3	10.4
Erie MSA	10.6	7.7	11.5	8.2	9.6	7.1
Harrisburg-Lebanon-Carlisle MSA	18.0	5.3	18.4	5.4	19.0	5.7
Johnstown MSA	10.1	9.9	10.9	10.6	10.4	10.5
Lancaster MSA	12.7	5.5	14.8	6.3	13.0	5.7
Philadelphia PMSA	165.6	6.8	176.7	7.2	155.2	6.5
Pittsburgh PMSA	67.0	6.6	68.1	6.7	62.0	6.2
Reading MSA	11.8	6.7	12.3	6.9	12.4	7.2
Scranton--Wilkes-Barre MSA	34.5	9.3	34.9	9.4	31.6	8.7
Sharon MSA	3.9	7.4	4.4	8.3	4.0	7.6
State College MSA	4.2	6.1	4.3	6.2	4.2	6.4
Williamsport MSA	5.1	8.4	5.5	9.0	5.2	8.7
York MSA	14.6	6.4	16.6	7.3	14.2	6.4

P/ = Preliminary data. **Note: Data are seasonally adjusted.**

PENNSYLVANIA'S RATE dropped in March for the first time in 1992. Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted rate of 7.2 percent beat the U.S. rate for the first time since November. Its 0.4 percentage point fall from 7.6 percent in February represented an unemployment decline of 29,000 over the month.

All 15 labor market areas showed seasonal improvement from February, and nine of them improved over the year. While none were down for the month by as much as a percentage point, the York and Sharon Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) showed the greatest month-to-month improvement: Both of them were down by 0.9 percentage point. Numerically, the greatest monthly decline, 11,100, was in the Philadelphia Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA). But then, reflecting its population, nearly 40 percent of Pennsylvania's unemployed live in this area.

The Beaver County PMSA was the only one of the 15 major labor market areas to have a double-digit unemployment rate in March -- down from two double-digit areas in February and in March 1991. Beaver County has had a double-digit rate since December 1991, and a rate above 9.5 percent in all but four months of 1991. This area, along the West Virginia and Ohio borders, has been heavily dependent on the steel industry, and has never really recovered from its contraction in the 1981-82 recession.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

Unemployment rates, not seasonally adjusted, for Service Delivery Areas (SDAs) ranged from 5.2 percent in SDA 21 to 10.8 percent in SDAs 10 and 15.

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA LABOR FORCE
(in thousands)

SDA NO.	COUNTIES	MARCH 1992 P/ LABOR FORCE	EMP.	UNEMPLOYMENT VOLUME	RATE
01	Erie	136.6	125.6	11.0	8.0
02	Clarion, Crawford, Forest, Venango, Warren	109.0	98.5	10.5	9.7
03	City of Pittsburgh	176.2	165.0	11.2	6.4
04	Allegheny County minus City of Pittsburgh	494.2	464.6	29.7	6.0
05	Beaver	61.1	54.6	6.5	10.7
06	Armstrong, Butler, Indiana	146.5	132.2	14.3	9.8
07	Fayette, Westmoreland	241.6	219.7	21.9	9.1
08	Greene, Washington	109.4	100.0	9.4	8.6
09	Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, Potter	106.7	96.1	10.6	9.9
10	Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset	210.8	188.1	22.7	10.8
11	Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Mifflin, Snyder, Union	234.7	213.9	20.8	8.9
13	Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wyoming	86.4	77.8	8.6	9.9
14	Lackawanna	109.4	99.7	9.7	8.9
15	Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne	109.6	97.8	11.8	10.8
16	Luzerne, Schuylkill	232.9	210.2	22.7	9.8
17	Philadelphia	717.3	659.2	58.1	8.1
18	Bucks	296.4	274.8	21.7	7.3
19	Montgomery	381.4	358.8	22.7	5.9
20	Delaware	285.0	268.1	16.9	5.9
21	Chester	195.9	185.6	10.3	5.2
22	Lehigh, Northampton	270.6	250.3	20.3	7.5
23	Berks	175.3	162.7	12.6	7.2
24	Cumberland, Dauphin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry	343.4	323.7	19.7	5.7
25	Lancaster	227.3	214.6	12.7	5.6
26	York	184.8	171.8	13.0	7.0
27	Adams, Franklin	100.5	93.8	6.7	6.7
28	Lawrence, Mercer	100.7	92.2	8.5	8.4
29	Montour, Northumberland	57.4	51.7	5.6	9.8
	PENNSYLVANIA - TOTAL	**5901.0**	**5451.0**	**450.0**	**7.6**

A Service Delivery Area is a geographical planning region defined by the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

P/ = Preliminary data.

Note: Data not seasonally adjusted.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Civilian Labor Force Estimates

Civilian Labor Force - Estimated number of persons 16 years of age and over, employed or unemployed during week including 12th of month, distributed by place of residence.

Total Employed - Includes nonagricultural wage and salary workers, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, domestics, agricultural workers, and persons involved in labor disputes. Employment distributed by place of residence.

Total Unemployed - Estimated number of persons, by place of residence, who did not work during reference week and were looking for work, whether or not eligible for unemployment compensation. Includes those who did not work and were waiting to be called back to an old job or to report to a new job.

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

Collection - Nonagricultural wage and salary employment as well as hours and earnings estimates based on monthly reports from sample of employers. Under cooperative arrangement with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Bureau of Research & Statistics of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, mails, edits, and processes reports, which are subsequently incorporated in national data.

Industrial Classification - Employer establishments classified by industry on basis of their principal product or service. The Standard Industrial Classification Manual (U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C., 1987) used for classification.

Nonagricultural Employment - A count of jobs by place of work. Includes persons on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation. Excluded are persons laid off, on strike, or on unpaid vacation during entire reporting period. Proprietors, the self-employed, unpaid family workers, farm workers, and domestic workers also excluded. Government employment covers only civilian employes. Full-time teachers considered employed during the summer vacation period, whether or not paid in those months.

Benchmark Data - Employment estimates compared annually with complete count of employment, by industry. Where revisions necessary, monthly estimates adjusted to new benchmark. Following revisions to new benchmark, industry data projected forward to current month by use of sample trends. Basic source of benchmark information is tabulations of employment data, by industry and area, compiled from contribution reports of employers covered under Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law.

Hours and Earnings

Method of Computing Averages - Average hours computed by dividing total production worker hours worked during one week (the seven-day period which includes 12th of month) by number of production workers for week. Average hourly earnings computed by dividing total production worker payroll for one week by total production worker hours for week. Average weekly earnings derived by multiplying average hourly earnings by average weekly hours.

Definitions - Definitions of production or similar workers, payroll, and hours - from which average hours and earnings data are derived - follow:

Production Workers - Includes working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspection, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (such as power plant), and record keeping and other services closely associated with production operations.

Payroll - Represents payroll for full- and part-time production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers who received pay for any part of pay periods which include 12th of month. Payroll is reported before deductions for Social Security, group insurance, withholding tax, bonds, and union dues; also includes pay for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave paid directly by the firm.

Hours - Represents hours worked or paid, during pay periods which include 12th of month, for production, construction, or nonsupervisory workers. Hours include time paid for holidays and vacations, and for sick leave when pay received directly from firm.

Unemployment Compensation

Initial Claims - Notices of unemployment filed to request a determination of entitlement to compensation in a new benefit year (period of eligibility) following a period of employment or to begin a second or subsequent period of eligibility within the benefit year following interim employment within the benefit year.

Weeks Claimed - Requests for benefits filed by claimants which certify to the fact the claimants experienced total, partial, or part-total unemployment for given weeks.

Average Weekly Claims - Total number of weeks claimed in a month divided by the number of weeks in the month.

Insured Unemployment Rate (IUR) - Ratio of the average weekly number of persons claiming unemployment compensation benefits within the given month to average annual covered employment. Calculated by dividing the month's average weekly continued weeks claimed by average annual covered employment. Average annual covered employment is estimated until six months after year's end due to a lag in reporting covered employment.

First Payment - First benefit check a claimant receives for a week of unemployment in a benefit year.

Weeks Paid - Weeks claimed which were paid to eligible claimants upon certification that unemployment compensation qualifying unemployment was experienced during given weeks.

Net Benefit Amount - Amount of regular unemployment compensation benefits paid to claimants, after adjusting for returned and redeposited benefit checks.

Income - Amount of funds deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including employer and employee contributions, transfers from other sources such as the Special Administration Fund, redeposited unemployment compensation checks, federal benefit program reimbursements, loans, and interest earnings.

Disbursements - Amount of funds disbursed from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for the current month including the payment of state unemployment compensation benefits, federal program benefits, refunds, and voluntary federal loan repayments.

Cash Reserves - Amount of funds available in the State's Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund available to pay unemployment compensation benefits.